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Sen. Allen announces grant awarded to St. Ignace

Lansing – The city of St. Ignace will receive a \$120,000 Community Development Block Grant to improve the downtown area announced state Sen. Jason Allen, R-Traverse City.

The Downtown and Gateways Project grant will allow the city of St. Ignace to construct a brick public walkway running through the center of a mini-mall redevelopment and public restrooms and upgrade parking in downtown.

“I’m happy to see this project funded,” Allen said. “This is a great opportunity for the city of St. Ignace. Making these improvements will create jobs and stimulate economic growth by attracting families to downtown St. Ignace.”

Heritage Houses, Inc has committed to creating 12 new jobs and investing \$345,000 in the building renovations. The city of St. Ignace and the local Downtown Development Authority must match the grant with \$24,000.

Plans for the redevelopment of the property include the renovation of an existing 8,000 square foot building that is currently vacant and will be used for six retail businesses that will employ four part-time positions each.

“This grant will allow St. Ignace to turn this vacant building into a thriving component of the downtown,” Allen said. “Downtowns are the heart of our communities.”

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